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APR 27 2005

10

Serial Number: 10/008,917

Art Unit: 3621

there would have been no expectation of success in using file systems as a basis of unique user characteristic data. Accordingly, even assuming the references are combined/modified as suggested by the examiner, the combination/modification still does not teach the claimed invention. Regarding program limitations of claim 10, none of Clark, Subler or Shin suggested or disclosed a step, a means or a program implementation of updating key data, as in the sixth step of claim 1. Without said update step, there would have been no expectation of success in using file systems as a basis of unique user characteristic data. Accordingly, even assuming the references are combined/modified as suggested by the examiner, the combination/modification still does not teach the claimed invention. Regarding claim 12, none of Clark, Subler or Shin suggested or disclosed a program means of updating key data, as in the sixth step of claim 12. Without said update means, there would have been no expectation of success in using file systems as a basis of unique user characteristic data. Accordingly, even assuming the references are combined/modified as suggested by the examiner, the combination/modification still does not teach the claimed invention. Regarding system limitations of claim 14, none of Clark, Subler or Shin suggested or disclosed a program means of updating key data, as in the sixth step of claim 12. Without said update means, there would have been no expectation of success in using file systems as a basis of unique user characteristic data, and that would have prevented said comparison from working successfully. Regarding permitted uses limitations of claim 15, none of Clark, Subler or Shin suggested or disclosed a program means of updating key data, as in the sixth step of claim 12. Without said update means, there would have been no expectation of success in using file systems as a basis of unique user characteristic data, and that would have prevented said permitted use limitations from working successfully. Regarding program limitations of claim 16, none of Clark, Subler or Shin suggested or disclosed a program means of updating key data, as in the sixth step of claim 12. Without said update means, there would have been no expectation of success in using file systems as a basis of unique user

Serial Number: 10/008,917

11

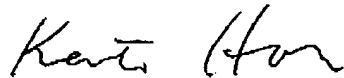
Art Unit: 3621

characteristic data, and that would have prevented said protection program from working successfully. Regarding claim 18, none of Clark, Subler or Shin suggested or disclosed a means for updating key data, as in update means of claim 18. Without said update means, there would have been no expectation of success in using file systems as a basis of unique user characteristic data. Accordingly, even assuming the references are combined/modified as suggested by the examiner, the combination/modification still does not teach the claimed invention.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that claims 1-7, 9, 10, 12, 14-16, and 18 patentably distinguish over Clark, in view of Subler or Shin, and are in condition for allowance for which applicant urges the examiner to issue an early Notice of Allowance. Should the examiner have any issues concerning this reply or any other outstanding issues remaining in this application, applicant urges the examiner to contact the undersigned to expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 4/8/05

Kenta Hori

Email:

kenta@chainkey.comUrl: www.chainkey.com

Phone: +81-70-5650-9107

Fax: +81-42-755-4961